

and destruction of the articles in respect of which the offence has been committed.

“ Provided that this section shall not apply—

“(a) to anything done by virtue of a licence issued from time to time by the Board of Trade under such conditions and regulations as they may prescribe for the purpose of supplying specimens of any birds not included in the schedule to any particular natural history or other museum or for the purpose of definite scientific research; or

“(b) to the plumage, skin, or body, or to any parts thereof, of any bird not included in the schedule to this Act and forming part of the wearing apparel being *bona fide* the property of and either actually in the use of or accompanying any person entering the United Kingdom and not being for the purpose of sale or exchange. Every such person shall if so required make a written declaration to this effect.

“ 2. On the advice and with the consent of the Privy Council the name of any other foreign wild bird may at any time be added to or removed from the schedule to this Act by notice published in the ‘Gazette,’ and thereupon the provisions of this Act shall take effect as if such bird had been included in or removed from the schedule to this Act.

“ The following is the schedule referred to in the Bill :—

“ BIRDS EXEMPTED.

“ 1. Ostriches.

“ 2. Eider Ducks.

“ 3. Wild birds used as articles of diet.”

Mr. Douglas Carruthers.—Writing from his winter-quarters at Samarkand (see above, p. 388), on April 14th, Mr. Carruthers says that he was just starting on a five-months’ expedition into Eastern Bokhara, “ where there is a curious mixture of country on the borders of Afghanistan—dense jungle in the low valleys and some of the highest mountains in Central Asia.” He had collected some 500—

600 specimens, and at the time of writing had plenty of work with the spring-migrants. After next October his plans are not yet settled, but he may possibly go back to Beyrout.

Mr. J. C. McLean, M.B.O.U.—Mr. McLean has presented the bird-skins relating to his article "On some Bush-birds of New Zealand," and to Mr. Ogilvie-Grant's "Appendix" to it published in 'The Ibis' for last year (pp. 519, 542), to the British Museum, and hopes to be shortly able to send home more specimens of *Pseudogerygone* so as to enable Mr. Ogilvie-Grant to complete his investigations on that difficult genus.

The Birds of the Ruwenzorian Expedition.—It has been arranged that a series of papers on the results of the Ruwenzorian Expedition (1905-6) shall be read before the Zoological Society of London, and published in a special volume of that Society's 'Transactions.' The introduction will be written by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, to whom is due the great credit of having organized and arranged this successful Expedition, and the general narrative by Mr. R. B. Woosnam. The Mammals will be described by Mr. Oldfield Thomas and Mr. R. C. Wroughton, and the Reptiles, Batrachians, and Fishes by Mr. G. A. Boulenger. Mr. Ogilvie-Grant is himself at work on the Birds, among which are representatives of 24 species new to science. The examination of the Insects and other Invertebrates has been undertaken by various specialists, mostly on the staff of the British Museum. The Flora of Ruwenzori, based on the large collection of plants made on this occasion, will be published by the Linnean Society.

The Raffles Museum at Singapore.—By the kindness of Dr. R. Hanitsch we have received copies of the 'Report of the Raffles Library and Museum' at Singapore for the year 1907, and of the 'List of the Birds in the Raffles

Museum.' We are glad to see that this useful Institution is in good case, and that the zoological collection has been recently moved into a new building. Among the recent additions to it is a Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*) obtained on the Perseverance Estate, Singapore. The Bittern is well known as a winter-visitor to North India and Burmah, and has been obtained as far south as Pegu, but its occurrence at Singapore has not, so far as we are aware, been recorded.

Live Paradise-Birds in London.—No ornithologist who goes to London this summer should omit to visit the Bird House in the Zoological Society's Gardens and inspect the beautiful series of Paradise-Birds now on view there. They comprise examples of five species, represented by ten individuals.

1. *Paradisea apoda*. Of this there is a splendid male in full plumage, which, if judiciously fed with meal-worms, can be induced to "show off" in the most delightful manner. He is not, however, on good terms with two in the adjoining cage, one of which is certainly a hen while the other *may* be a young male.

2. *Paradisea minor*. One male.
 3. *Paradisea rubra*. One male.
 4. *Seleucidés alba*. One male.
 5. *Cicinnurus regius*. Two pairs.
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New Expedition to East Africa.—It is announced in the last number of the 'Ornithologische Monatsberichte' that two German ornithologists—Dr. A. Berger and Herr Hauptman Roth—are planning a new collecting-expedition into Eastern Africa, starting from Nairobi next autumn. They propose to visit Mt. Kenia, Leikipia, Lake Baringo, and Mt. Elgon, and after going round Lake Victoria to pass across Uganda to Lake Albert, and to return home down the White Nile.

Pallas's Sand-Grouse.—In a letter to the 'Field' (13th June, 1908, p. 982), Mr. Jean Stolzmann, of the Branicki Museum, Warsaw, announces that numerous flocks of Pallas's Sand-Grouse (*Syrnhaptes paradoxus*) appeared in Eastern Galicia (Austrian Poland) in May last.

Herr Th. Lorenz, writing in 'Ornith. Monatsb.' (1908, p. 100), records the appearance of many of these Sand-Grouse this year in European Russia. The first specimen was obtained near Moscow on the 16th of April, and two others in the Government of Rjusan on the same day. On the 18th April a flock of 15 was observed near Twer, and one example was shot. On the 18th a specimen was obtained near Span-Tamhoff, and on the 19th two males near Tula, where there was said to be large flocks.

There would appear, therefore, to be a probability of a fresh invasion of this curious vagrant into Western Europe.

The Jubilee of the B. O. U.—It has been decided that the General Meeting of the B. O. U. (to celebrate the completion of the fiftieth volume of 'The Ibis') shall be held in London on Wednesday, Dec. 9th. Further particulars will be sent to all the Members of the B. O. U.

The German Ornithological Society.—It is announced in the 'Ornithologische Monatsberichte' that the Annual Meeting of the Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft for this year will be held at Danzig on Oct. 2nd–4th. On the 5th and 6th, after the meeting, an excursion will be made to Königsberg and the Ornithological Observatory of Rossitten, when the new building of the Observatory will be formally opened. For further information application should be made to Herr Prof. Dr. Lakowitz in Danzig (Frauengasse, 26). We hope that some British ornithologists may be able to attend the meeting, and can assure them (from past personal experience) that they will receive a hearty welcome.